

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-08 NSC-06 AID-01 /027 W

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R 161655Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2031

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 5561

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (MCGOVERN, GEORGE)

SUBJECT: CODEL MCGOVERN

1. PLEASE PASS THIS TRANSLATION OF HIS TANJUG INTERVIEW TO SENATOR MCGOVERN. YUGOSLAV PRESS GAVE IT PROMINENT COVERAGE AUGUST 16TH. OVERALL REPORTING CABLE ON SENATOR'S DISCUSSIONS AND VISIT HERE FOLLOWS SEPTEL.

2. BEGIN INTERVIEW:

DUBROVNIK, AUGUST 15 (TANJUG)-SO FAR, PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION WAS MORE SUCCESSFUL IN FOREIGN POLICY THAN ON THE DOMESTIC SCENE, STATED THE WELL-KNOWN U.S. SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN AT THE END OF A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO THIS COUNTRY ON THE INVITATION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF YUGOSLAVIA. THE DEMOCRATIC SENATOR FROM SOUTH DAKOTA REFERRED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH TANJUG'S SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MOMCILO BLAGOJEVIC TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, AND ESPECIALLY, YUGOSLAV REALITY AND HIS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS.

"I THINK THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS TRYING TO ACHIEVE A NUMBER OF THINGS IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR WHICH HE DESERVES CONSIDERABLE CREDIT." SEN. MCGOVERN SAID. "HE MADE A SERIOUS EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF THE MIDDLE EAST. SO FAR HE HAS NOT SUCCEEDED BUT HE IS TRYING VERY HARD TO BRING ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST".

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THE SENATOR ALSO THOUGHT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER "MADE SOME PROGRESS IN IMPROVING THE U.S. POSITIONS IN AFRICA". "I THINK THAT WE ARE CLOSER NOW TO THE BLACK MAJORITY IN AFRICA THAN WE WERE AT ANYSUREVIOUS TIME," HE ADDED.

"HE (PRESIDENT CARTER) IS ALSO MAKING AN EFFORT TO OPEN SOME KIND OF DIALOGUE WITH CUBA, AND HE HAS

RENEWED SOME OF THE TALKS WITH VIETNAMESE IN PARIS".

"I ALSO THINK," CONTINUED SEN. MCGOVERN, "THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS COMMITTED TO DETENTE AND TO IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, WITH CHINA AND WITH THE WHOLE COMMUNIST WORLD".

SEN. MCGOVERN SAID HE ALSO SUPPORTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S EFFORT IN KOREA, "WHERE HE HAD CALLED FOR SYSTEMATIC WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN GROUND FORCES. I THINK THIS IS A WISE MOVE".

"IN DOMESTIC POLICY, HOWEVER, HE WAS SOMEWHAT LESSS SUCCESSFUL," SE, MCGOVERN CONTINUED. "WE STILL HAVE THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT, THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF INFLATION. THE EERGY PROBLEM IS UNRESOLVED. WE HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN OUR MAJOR CITIES. A PART OF THE CITIES IS IN BAD SHAPE ON HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION".

ASKED ABOUT THE PRESENT U.S. INITIATIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE VISITS TO SOME COUNTRIES IN THE REGION BY U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE, SEN. MCGOVERN WAS CATEGORICAL IN DELIMITING THE CHANCES OF PEACE AND WAR IN THE REGION.

"I THINK THE BASIS FOR THE SETTLEMENT IS THE UN RESOLUTION 242," HE SAID, "AND ALL THE PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE GOING TO HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT OR SOMETHING SIMILAR. OTHERWISE, THERE WILL BE ANOTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST. I THINK IF WE DO NOT HAVE THE TENEVA UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFERENCE AND IF THERE IS NO COMPROMISE SPIRIT, THEN I THINK ALMOST CERTAINLY THERE WILL BE ANOTHER WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST".

ON THE PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SEN. MCGOVERN SAID: "I DON'T THINK THAT EITHER THE U.S. OR THE SOVIET UNION CAN CONTROL THE THIRD WORLD. AND I DON'T THINK THAT THEY SHOULD TRY. I THINK THAT THE DAY

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

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OF THE SUPERPOWERS IS OVER AND WE HAVE TO BEGIN LIVING
AMONG THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS, TO BEGIN THINKING IN
TERMS MORE AS A FAMILY THAN AS A GROUP OR POWER BLOCS
THAT HAVE TO DOMINATE THE SMALLER COUNTRIES".

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, SEN. MCGOVERN SAID HE
BELIEVED THAT "MOST AMERICANS NOW UNDERSTAND WHY
YUGOSLAVIA IS FOLLOWING THE NON-ALIGNED POLICY AND WHY
THIS IS THE COURSE FOR OTHER COUNTRIES TOO".

THE U.S. SENATOR SHOWED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST
IN THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
AND DESCRIBED THE EFFORTS MADE AT THE BELGRADE
PREPARATORY MEETING AS IMPORTANT.

"I THINK THAT YUGOSLAVIA PLAYED AN IMPORTANT
AND HELPFUL ROLE IN THE RECENT PREPARATORY CONFERENCE
IN BELGRADE TO LAY DOWN PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING
MEETING IN BELGRADE. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE WAY
YUGOSLAV DELEGATES HELPED WORK OUT THE COMPROMISE FORMULA,
THAT I THINK WILL MAKE IT MUCH MORE LIKELY NOW THAT THE
OCTOBER CONFERENCE WILL BE A SUCCESS".

AS TO WASHINGTON'S EXPECTATIONS FROM THE
CONFERENCE, SEN. MCGOVERN CLASSIFIED THESE AS FOLLOWS:
EASIER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS,
BETTER TREATMENT OF PRISONERS, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF AN
ATTITUDE OF GREATER RESPECT OF WRITERS, ARTISTS AND ALL
CREATIVE INTELLECTUALS IN VARIOUS SOCIETIES ALL OVER THE
WORLD.

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THE SENIOR U.S. VISITOR REFERRED ESPECIALLY TO
HIS VISIT AND TALKS WITH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS. "IT WAS
AN OPEN AND GENUINE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH ALL
OFFICIALS WHO WERE VERY RESPONSIVE TO ALL MY QUESTIONS
ON THE FOREIGN AS WELL AS DOMESTIC ISSUES."

"I ASSURED THEM THAT THE UNITED STATES REGARDS
YUGOSLAVIA AS AN IMPORTANT COUNTRY NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF
ITS RICH HISTORY AND THE ROLE IT PLAYS AS AN INDEPENDENT
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, BUT ALSO BECAUSE IT PROVIDES A
UNIQUE BRIDGE BETWEEN EASTERN COUNTRIES AND THE WEST.
ALSO, IT IS A LEADING COUNTRY IN UPHOLDING THE PROBLEMS
OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD IN AFRICA, ASIA AND ELSEWHERE.
SO, IF I WANTED TO SINGLE OUT ONE COUNTRY IN A SPECIAL
PLACE IN TERMS OF RELATING TO VARIOUS POWER BLOCS AROUND

THE WORLD, IT WOULD BE YUGOSLAVIA". END INTERVIEW.
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